

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-22 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 5, 14 and 19-22 are amended.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-18 are allowed.

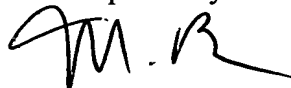
The Office Action rejects claims 5, 19-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over USP 6,276,317 to Yoeda et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 19 and 21 and claims 20 and 22 are amended to depend from claims 5 and 14 respectively and thus are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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